

## **Law of Georgia**

### **on Veterinary**

This law shall determine the rights and duties of veterinary services and organizational and financial-economic bases thereof. It shall regulate general activities in the field of veterinary and lay down the forms and methods of state veterinary control in accordance with the requirements of International Veterinary-Sanitary Code.

### **Section I. General Provisions**

#### **Article 1. Definition of Veterinary Terms** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

Terms used in this law shall have the following meanings:

- a) veterinary (veterinary medicine) – scientific and practical activities aimed at prophylaxis of diseases of all kind of animals, birds, fish, bee, water-land mammals, amphibians, embryos, animal ova, incubation eggs, fertilized spawn (hereinafter – animals) and treatment thereof; production of proper and reliable products of cattle breeding from veterinary-sanitary point of view and protection of population and the territory of a country against common animal and human diseases;
- b) state veterinary service of Georgia – unified system of state institutions and organizations performing state control-supervision activities and, where necessary, undertaking activities provided for by Georgian legislation towards the owners of animals and all kind of items subject to state veterinary control, regardless of the form of institutional subordination and ownership thereof;
- c) sub-products – offal, head, tail, legs, udder, cut-offs and other products obtained from animals processing;
- d) private veterinary service – a natural person or a legal person of private law performing veterinary activities; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- e) private veterinary activities – professional activities of a person holding a certificate for graduated veterinary education and the right to exercise independent veterinary practices;
- f) certification – granting the right to exercise private veterinary practices;
- g) epizootics – contracting of a number of animals simultaneously with contagious diseases on a certain territory and within the period concerned;
- h) epizootic condition – set of data concerning the origin and spread of contagious diseases on a territory within the period concerned;
- i) activities against epizootics – set of general-prophylactic and liquidation activities against contagious diseases;
- j) activities taken against non-contagious diseases – set of prophylactic and treatment activities, including surgical, cosmetic, gynecologic and other special operations;
- k) veterinary-sanitary activities – implementation of veterinary supervision on items subject to state veterinary control and set of activities undertaken against the agents of contagious diseases and their carriers in the environment;

- l) zoo-anthropoical diseases – infectious and invasive diseases transmitted to humans from animals;
- m) zoonotic diseases - infectious and invasive diseases transmitted from animals to animals;
- n) state veterinary control – veterinary activities ensuring veterinary-inspection control on the observance of requirements of International Veterinary-Sanitary Code and Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary, veterinary-sanitary supervision on export-import, transit, storage and realization of animals and animal products, also quality control of veterinary preparations;
- o) veterinary-sanitary supervision – permanent supervision of premises subject to state veterinary control ensuring the transportation of diseased animals, elimination of production, processing, storage, transportation and realization of products of cattle breeding deemed unreliable from veterinary point of view;
- p) veterinary-inspection control – activities of state veterinarian-inspectors ensuring control on the observance of requirements of Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary on all kind of items subject to state veterinary control;
- q) veterinary-sanitary assessment – veterinary-sanitary conclusion determining the reliability of animal trunk, offal and other products of cattle breeding;
- r) veterinary laboratory examination (expertise) – establishing the agents of animal diseases by means of laboratory methods, checking the quality of veterinary preparations and determination of indicators of reliability of products of cattle breeding from veterinary point of view;
- s) Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary – set of laws and by-law normative acts adopted with a view to regulating veterinary activities;
- t) products of cattle breeding – products of animal origin intended for human and animal consumption, also for pharmaceutical and industrial purposes:
  - t.a. products of animal origin intended for human consumption: meat, meat products, offal and other sub-products, egg, dairy products, fish and fish products;
  - t.b. products of animal origin intended for animal consumption: meat, liver, bone, blood, wing-feather, fatty tissues and protein residues (cretonne), flour and dairy products;
  - t.c. products of animal origin intended for pharmaceutical industry: organs, glands, tissues and organic liquids of animals;
  - t.d. products of animal origin intended for industrial purposes: leather, furskin, wool, hair, bristle, wing-feather, horns, hooves, bones, blood, intestines and dairy products;
- u) animal feed additives – natural or synthesized substances (admixtures) intended for the enrichment of vitamin-mineral ingredients of animal feeds;
- v) premises subject to state veterinary control – breeding of all kind of animals in farming, peasant household, families for industrial or breeding purposes, as well as factories and incubators; all kind of means of transport intended for the transportation of animals; gathering, processing, storing and realization facilities of raw materials and products of cattle breeding; industrial refrigerators (refrigerating units) and food premises; production, storage and realization facilities of animal feed additives; premises for production, storing and realization of veterinary biological and chemical-pharmaceutical preparations (materials); all kind of veterinary

- premises; veterinary premises, agrarian markets and other trade points of natural persons and legal persons of private law;
- w) processing plant of raw materials and products of cattle breeding – industrial plant intended for the processing of raw materials and products of cattle breeding, production, as well as storage and realization of food products and other products used in cattle breeding and veterinary from such products in conformity with veterinary-sanitary rules and technological parameters and in consistency with current normative documents;
  - x) plant intended for the storage of raw materials and products of cattle breeding - plant intended for the storage of raw materials and products of cattle breeding under relevant temperature regime with a view to avoiding spoilage thereof in conformity with veterinary-sanitary rules. Equipment and functioning conditions of such facilities shall meet the requirements of normative documents;
  - y) production plant of raw materials of animals and cattle breeding – production plant of raw materials of animals and cattle breeding in compliance with the requirements of veterinary-sanitary rules and current normative documents;
  - z) industrial processing – production of commodity (ready-made) products from raw materials of cattle breeding at the manufactory (plant) in full compliance with veterinary-sanitary rules and technological parameters and normative documents.

**Article 2. Veterinary Service** (26.10.2004 N 503)

Veterinary Service shall mean theoretical and practical activities of state veterinary services staffed by qualified veterinary specialists, also industrial activities of natural persons and legal persons of private law in the field of veterinary.

**Article 3. State Services Responsible for Veterinary Activities** (29.12.2006 N 4235)

1. Veterinary activities shall be implemented by the relevant services of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and the Ministries of Agriculture of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and South Osetia.
2. Control of state veterinary border-quarantine activities on the territories of borders, sea ports, airports, land road exit points and the customs points of discharge of Georgia shall be performed by the relevant service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

**Article 4. Purposes and Objectives of State Veterinary Services** (26.10.2004 N 503)

1. Purposes of the state veterinary services shall be:
  - a) animal health protection;
  - b) protection of population against common animal and human diseases;
  - c) protection of the territory of Georgia against import of agents of animal diseases from other countries.
2. Objectives of the state veterinary services shall be:
  - a) supervision on the implementation of prophylactic-treatment activities carried out against animal contagious and non-contagious diseases with a view to elimination thereof;
  - b) veterinary-sanitary supervision on slaughter of animals, production, processing and storage of products of cattle breeding;

- c) veterinary-sanitary supervision on trade in (realization of) animals and products of cattle breeding;
- d) control of production and quality of biological and chemical-pharmaceutical preparations (means);
- e) veterinary-sanitary supervision on export-import, re-export and transit of animals, raw materials and products of cattle breeding, animal feeds, veterinary preparations (means) and other consignments subject to state veterinary control;
- f) undertaking of veterinary laboratory examinations;
- g) organization and implementation of veterinary-inspecting control.

**Article 5. Legal Basis of Veterinary Activities** (26.10.2004 N 503)

Legal basis of veterinary activities shall be: constitution of Georgia, International Veterinary-Sanitary Code, this law, Law of Georgia “concerning the rules of certification of state veterinary surgeons” and other legislative and by-law acts.

**Article 6. Relation of Veterinary Service with Central and Local Administrative Authorities**

Veterinary activities in Georgia shall be performed in collaboration with central state executive, local administrative and self-governing authorities.

**Section II. Training, Status and Employment of Veterinary Specialists**

**Article 7. Training of Veterinary Specialists** (26.10.2004 N 503)

1. Training of veterinary specialists in Georgia shall be undertaken by special high and secondary education schools (faculties).
2. Graduates of special high and secondary education schools (faculties) shall be granted qualification of veterinary surgeon, veterinary-sanitary surgeons, veterinary pharmacist and veterinary general practitioners according to the education obtained.
3. Training of veterinary surgeons, veterinary-sanitary surgeons and veterinary pharmacists shall be implemented in accordance with Law of Georgia “on education”.

**Article 8. Rights of Veterinary Technicians (Assistants)**

1. Veterinary technicians (assistants) shall have the right to exercise professional activities on the high-ranking posts in the field of veterinary where the activities concerned are carried out under the direct responsibility and control of a veterinary surgeon;
2. Veterinary technician shall be assigned on a vacant position of an ordinary veterinary surgeon only as a temporary executor.

**Article 9. Veterinary Activities of Foreign Citizens and Persons without Citizenship**

Foreign Citizens and persons without citizenship having relevant qualification of veterinary surgeons shall be entitled to perform veterinary practices on the territory of Georgia after taking compulsory attestation on the spot.

**Article 10. Right to Exercise Private Veterinary Practices** (26.10.2004 N 503)

Right to exercise private veterinary activities shall be granted only to the persons with relevant veterinary education holding state certificate of relevant specialty of right to exercise independent veterinary activities.

### **Article 11. Social Protection of Veterinary Specialists**

1. Local administrative authorities, relevant organizations, firms and enterprises shall provide veterinary personnel with accommodation, transport and other basic necessities;
2. Veterinary specialists shall be subject to compulsory insurance and in case of getting infected, invalid and disabled during the execution of duty obligations, implementation of measures against zoo-anthropotic diseases or other manipulations shall be entitled to a pension in accordance with Georgian legislation, also to a one-off financial assistance amounting 3 to 5-year salary from non-budgetary income expenses;
3. Veterinary specialists working in regional centers, country districts, villages, cities subordinated to districts as well as pensioners shall be entitled to free accommodation, heating, light, credit allowances for running private household, construction of accommodation places, purchase of animals and for other household purposes;
4. Veterinary specialists sent on business trips to the nests of especially dangerous animal diseases – foot and mouth disease, tuberculosis, ... and other diseases for making injections/vaccinations, diagnostic researches, path-anatomic dissections, taking materials and sending them in laboratories shall be entitled to additional remuneration three times as much as average daily salary;
5. Veterinary specialists sent on business trips to pastures and nomadic veterinary specialists shall be entitled to additional compensation of business trip expenses amounting 40% of official rates;
6. Veterinary specialists, technical staff working under harmful conditions shall be entitled to additional 12-day paid holiday.
7. Salary of veterinary specialists and technical staff working under especially harmful conditions (personnel of the structures combating bacteriologists, virusologists, anatomists, pathanatoms, toxicologists, radiologists, disinfectors, disinsectors, deratisators, epizootics and other specialists) as well as the personnel of veterinary organization working in mountain areas shall increase by 20%. *(26.10.2004 N 503)*
8. Veterinary surgeons working in the veterinary service holding a PhD degree shall be entitled by additional 50% of monthly salary, candidates of science – 30%, merited veterinary surgeons of Georgia – 25%, merited veterinary surgeons of autonomous republics– 20%.
9. Veterinary specialists shall be entitled to work on part-time basis on a territory of one administrative district, city (but not in the same organization and veterinary service subject to control).

### **Article 12. Offering Incentives and Awards to Veterinary Specialists** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

Veterinary specialists shall be offered incentives and awards in accordance with Georgian legislation.

## **Section III. Unified Network of State, Institutional and Private Veterinary Services**

### **Article 13. State Veterinary Service of Georgia** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

1. Public policy in the field of veterinary shall be determined and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia. In cases provided for by law it shall coordinate the activities of the private veterinary service and shall represent Georgia in the international bureau on epizootics, world veterinary association and other international veterinary organizations. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
2. Unified state veterinary service of Georgia shall consist of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and the Ministries of agriculture of autonomous republics of Abkhazia and Adjara. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
3. Removed. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
4. Removed. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

**Article 14.** Removed *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

### **Article 15. Private Veterinary Services**

Private Veterinary Services shall be:

- a) private veterinary clinics, drugstores, stores, unified and individual veterinary treatment offices, private cosmetic cabinets for animals and other similar private services located in districts, cities and villages;
- b) number of staff members of private veterinary services shall be determined directly by the heads of the service.

### **Article 16. Subordination of Veterinary Services of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara** *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

Veterinary departments of the Ministries of Agriculture of autonomous republics of Abkhazia and Adjara shall, in terms of professional activities, be directly subordinated to the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, while in terms of territorial administrative matters – to the governments of respective Autonomous Republics.

### **Article 17. Functions of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia**

Functions of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia in the field of veterinary shall be:

- a) veterinary-inspection control on the observance of the requirements of International Veterinary-Sanitary Code and Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary by natural and legal persons;
- b) control on the implementation of veterinary-sanitary inspection of animals and products of cattle breeding (plant products) and supervision over agrarian markets, production, storage and realization premises of raw materials and products of cattle breeding, industrial refrigerators (refrigeration units), food premises and premises trading in fresh meat, fish, sub-products, fresh milk and honey;
- c) quality control of veterinary biological and chemical-pharmaceutical preparations produced in or imported into Georgia;
- d) supervision over the activities of private veterinary services within its capacity;
- e) fulfillment of other obligations provided for by this Law and Georgian legislation.

**Article 18.** Removed *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

### **Article 19. Obligations of Private Veterinary Services** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

1. Removed. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
2. Private veterinary services shall:

- a) implement prophylaxis-treatment and quarantine measures against epizootic, zoonotic, zoo-anthropotic diseases on the basis of agreement signed with the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- b) inform forthwith the state veterinary service of relevant administrative-territorial unit about the outbreak of animal infectious mass contagious or non-contagious diseases;
- c) ensure statistical registration of veterinary activities and provide periodic information concerning this to the state veterinary service of relevant administrative-territorial unit;
- d) observe the requirements of International Veterinary-Sanitary Code and Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary during the implementation of their activities;

**Article 20. Rights of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia in the Field of Veterinary** *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

The rights of the Ministry of Agriculture in the field of veterinary shall cover:

- a) organization of state veterinary activities in Georgia;
- b) preparation of programs and activities against epizootic, zooanthropotic and non-contagious diseases;
- c) preparation of proposals concerning prospective, problematic and special issues in the field of veterinary;
- d) issue of veterinary permits on import and transit of animals, products of cattle breeding, animal feeds and other consignments subject to state veterinary control; *(removed) (29.06.2007, No. 5121)*
- e) supervision over the production, storage and realization of biological, diagnostic, chemical-pharmaceutical, other veterinary preparations, feed additives as well as import-export and use of imported biological preparations and cooperation with the drug agency of the Ministry of Labor, Healthcare and Social Protection of Georgia on these issues;
- f) preparation of normative acts on the issues concerning the processing, storage, transportation, realization of animals, products of cattle breeding and other veterinary issues.

**Section IV. Rights and Obligations of Executive Government of Georgia, Ministerial Councils, Local Authorities and Town Halls of the Districts and Cities of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara,**

**Article 21. Capacities of Executive Government of Georgia**

Rights of the executive government of Georgia shall cover:

- a) adoption of relevant normative acts for the implementation of programs against quarantine and especially dangerous diseases; *(26.10.2004 N 503)*
- b) removed; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- c) annual allocation of funds for the implementation of activities necessary for the liquidation of epizootic, anthropotic, animal mass contagious and non-contagious diseases, provision of the state veterinary service with material-technical means, refrigeration articles, laboratory equipments, special, disinfection, transportation and other means for urgent veterinary aid as well as allocation of financial sources for the purchase thereof; *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

- d) localization of nests of animal dangerous contagious diseases, in case of necessity and for the purposes of liquidation thereof, allocation of additional funds and other veterinary means; *(26.10.2004 N 503)*
- e) allocation of funds necessary for the creation of reserve fund of biological, diagnostic, chemical-pharmaceutical and other means of treatment necessary for veterinary for the purposes of civil defense and imposition of control on periodic updating of the reserve fund concerned;
- f) imposition of control on activities carried out with a view to preventing import-spread of animal dangerous contagious diseases on the territory of Georgia from other countries; *(26.10.2004 N 503)*
- g) removed. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

**Article 22. Capacity of Executive Governments of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara** *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

Capacity of executive governments of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara shall cover:

- a) organization of veterinary activities in Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara in accordance with this law and other current legislative acts in the field of veterinary;
- b) preparation of normative acts of local importance and adoption, repeal of relevant resolutions and decrees in the field of veterinary;
- c) imposition of control on the implementation of epizootic, activities in Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara for the purposes of protection of animals against quarantine and especially dangerous contagious diseases;
- d) setting up activities of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia to be carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor, Healthcare and Social Protection of Georgia for prophylaxis and localization-liquidation purposes of common animal and human diseases.

**Article 23. Rights and Obligations of Local Authorities and Town Halls of Districts and Cities**

The rights and duties of local authorities and town halls of districts and cities shall cover:

- a) imposition and removal of quarantine, special conditions and regimes of agricultural activities with a view to localization-liquidation of animal dangerous diseases on the basis of a notification of relevant services of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara related to catching-killing of stray animals in relevant administrative-territorial units; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- b) Removed; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- c) Removed; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- d) organization of prophylactic activities against epizootic, zoo-anthropotic and other dangerous diseases;
- e) removed; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- f) removed; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
- g) imposition of control on the implementation of acts adopted on the issues related to the prophylactic and localization-liquidation of common animal and human dangerous mass contagious and non-contagious diseases; *(26.10.2004 N 503)*
- h) setting up disposal, utilization factories, burying pits for dead animals (corpse), meat, meat products in administrative-territorial units and implementation of control on the functioning thereof; *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

i) removed. (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 24. Production of Veterinary Biological and all Kinds of Chemical-Pharmaceutical Preparations (Means) and Quality Control thereof** (26.10.2004 N 503)

1. Quality control on veterinary preparations (means) produced in and imported into Georgia shall be implemented by the Ministry of Labor, Healthcare and Social Protection of Georgia. (28.12.2005 N 2568)
2. It is prohibited to produce veterinary preparations not registered in Georgia according to the rules provided for by law.
3. It is prohibited to use the rest of vaccines, diagnostic means, chemical-pharmaceutical and other preparations, feed additives and micro-elements.

**Article 25. Removed.** (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 26. Removed.** (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 27. Removed.** (26.10.2004 N 503)

**Section V. Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision** (26.10.2004 N 503)

**Article 28. Implementation of Veterinary-Inspection Control and Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision on the Premises of Production, Processing, Storage and Realization of Animals, Raw Materials and Products of Animals** (26.10.2004 N 503)

1. During the planning and construction of premises of cattle breeding, veterinary premises, biological plants, biological factories, premises producing veterinary preparations (means), drugstores, bases, refrigeration systems, poultry farms, agrarian markets, also premises trading in meat, sub-products, eggs, fresh milk and fish, meat-plants, slaughter-houses, sausage- and meat-processing factories, premises processing and storing raw materials and products of cattle breeding, storing facilities, all kinds of farming and peasantry private household premises, other facilities subject to state veterinary control, account shall be taken of animal maintenance conditions as well as sanitary conditions of production-processing of products of cattle breeding in order to avoid pollution of the environment with the agents of animal and human common contagious dangerous diseases.
2. Removed. (28.12.2005 N 2568)
3. Removed. (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 29. Observance of Veterinary-Sanitary Requirements during the Maintenance, Feeding, Water-Supply, Transportation-Driving of Animals**

1. Equipments of permanent or temporary animal shelters shall ensure reliable conditions for animal maintenance and healthcare;
2. Industries, institutions, organizations, firms, peasantry or private industrial facilities and citizens keeping animals are obliged to provide animals with reliable feeds and water which is in consistency with veterinary-sanitary requirements and norms;

3. Veterinary-sanitary requirements and norms concerning the fitness of animal feeds and feed additives shall be approved in accordance with the requirements of international veterinary rules. *(26.10.2004 N 503)*
4. Removed; *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
5. Transportation-driving of animals shall be carried out in compliance with veterinary requirements and along the route established by and agreed with the duly authorized service. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

**Article 30. Protection of the Territory of Georgia from the Importation of Agents of Dangerous Contagious Animal Diseases from Foreign Countries** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

1. Permitted to be imported into Georgia from foreign countries shall be only healthy animals and raw materials and products of cattle breeding obtained from such animals.
2. It is mandatory that the country of export of animals and products of cattle breeding is reliable in terms of animal contagious diseases.
3. Import of animals, raw materials and products of cattle breeding, animal feeds and other consignments subject to state veterinary control into Georgia from abroad shall only be allowed under the permission of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)* (removed) *(29.06.2007. No. 5121)*
4. Implemented at the cross-border points of Georgia (international railway stations, stations, sea ports, airports, roads of international importance) in the immediate customs control zone shall be the inspection of export-import and transit consignments subject to state veterinary control, implementation of relevant activities with a view to eliminating the import of agents of animal and human common dangerous contagious diseases into the territory of Georgia from other countries by all kind of means of transport and consignments (railway, postal, including hold luggage of passengers), while in case of doubting reliability and fitness of consignments, or violation of transportation veterinary-sanitary norms the consignments shall be subject to detention, disposal or removal-destruction in accordance with the rules established. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
5. Removed. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

**Article 31. Production, Storage, Transportation and Realization of Products of Cattle Breeding** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

1. Products of cattle breeding shall be in consistency with security norms of human health and shall be produced on the reliable territory in view of animal dangerous contagious diseases.
2. Industries, organizations (establishment), institutions in the field of production, processing, storage, transportation and realization of the products of cattle breeding shall be obliged to observe veterinary-sanitary and ecological requirements.

**Article 32. Obligations of the Holders of Animals and Facilities Subject to State Veterinary Control** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

Animal keepers and the holders of industries producing and processing raw materials and products of cattle breeding, peasantry and farming household, poultry factories and other facilities subject to state veterinary control shall be obliged to:

- a) strictly observe the maintenance conditions of animals, prevent production and realization of products of cattle breeding deemed unreliable from the veterinary-sanitary and ecological point of view;

- b) undertake household and special veterinary activities ensuring epizootic and zoonotic reliability;
- c) maintain relevant veterinary-sanitary order in animal shelters as well, as in the food processing and storage facilities thereof;
- d) prevent pollution of the environment with residues of raw materials and products of cattle breeding;
- e) observe hygienic and veterinary-sanitary requirements and norms during the construction and exploitation of animal shelters as well as storage and realization facilities of products of cattle breeding;
- f) execute forthwith the instructions of state veterinary specialists during the implementation of prophylaxis-treatment and liquidation activities against animal diseases, also ensure planned and compulsory vaccination, implementation of diagnostic research, treatment and other veterinary activities against animal epizootics within the time limits established;
- g) prevent slaughter of animals, realization of meat and sub-products of slaughtered animals without the permission of veterinary surgeons and veterinary examination;
- h) perform trading in animals and raw materials and products of cattle breeding in agrarian markets, special trade points only after veterinary and veterinary-sanitary examination.

**Article 32<sup>1</sup>. Veterinary Security Provision during the Slaughter of Animal**  
(26.10.2004 N 503)

1. Slaughter of animals with a view to realization thereof shall only be permitted under veterinary-sanitary supervision in relevant slaughter houses, in case of at least one slaughter house in relevant districts. (28.12.2005 N 2568)
2. Number of slaughter houses, standard rules and other issues related to the creation and functioning thereof shall be determined by the order of the Minister of Agriculture of Georgia.
3. Removed. (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 33. Confiscation and Destruction of Animals, Products of Raw Materials of Cattle Breeding, Animal Feeds In Case of Especially Dangerous Contagious Animal Diseases** (28.12.2005 N 2568)

In case of violation of veterinary-sanitary conditions during the liquidation of especially dangerous contagious animal diseases (referred to in groups “a” and “b” of International Veterinary-Sanitary Code), possible outbreak thereof, importation of products of cattle breeding, inland transportation, production and realization, also during the liquidation of infected nests the animals, products of cattle breeding and animal feeds shall be subject to confiscation and destructed at the expense of the owner.

**Section IV. Protection of Population against Animal and Human Common Contagious Diseases** (26.10.2004 N 503)

**Article 34. Implementation of Veterinary-Sanitary Supervision of Agrarian Markets, Premises for the Production, Storage and Processing of Animals and Raw Materials and Products of Cattle Breeding, Industrial Refrigerators (Refrigeration Units), Trade Points Trading in Fresh Meat and Fish, Sub-products, Eggs, Fresh Milk and Honey** (26.10.2004 N 503)

1. It is compulsory that veterinary-sanitary supervision services (laboratories) staffed by veterinary specialist(s) holding relevant certificates are located in

agrarian markets, trading points of fresh meat and fish, sub-products, eggs, fresh milk and honey, premises of production, storage and processing of animals and raw materials and products of cattle breeding, industrial refrigerators (refrigeration units) regardless of their subordination and legal form (also on the basis of contract). Milk and milk product industries shall be obliged to ensure relevant research of raw materials on brucellosis and mastitis. (28.12.2005 N 2568)

2. It is prohibited to trade in animals, products of cattle breeding, (meat, sub-products, meat products, milk and milk products, fish and fish products, eggs, products of apiculture and the like) in the premises referred to in this Article not equipped with veterinary-sanitary supervision services (laboratories) referred to in this law.
3. Removed. (28.12.2005 N 2568)
4. On agrarian markets animals, meat, sub-products, milk and milk products, poultry and its meat, meat of game animals and birds, eggs, edible fats, fish, products-raw materials of honey and apiculture, products of plant origin are subject to determination of veterinary-sanitary reliability.
5. Realization of leather-raw materials and furskins shall be permitted only in case of having undergone processing-conservation procedures in accordance with relevant rules and against laboratory results thereof.
6. In case of revelation of unreliable products from veterinary-sanitary point of view the managers (administration) of agrarian markets, facilities of the production, storage and processing of animals and raw materials and products of cattle breeding, industrial refrigerators (refrigeration units), facilities of trade in fresh meat and fish, sub-products, eggs, fresh milk and honey and veterinary-sanitary supervising services (laboratories) located at these premises are obliged to confiscate and destroy the products concerned at the expense of an owner and shall inform the Ministry of Agriculture thereabout. (28.12.2005 N 2568)
7. The managers (administration) of agrarian markets, facilities of the production, storage and processing of animals and raw materials and products of cattle breeding, industrial refrigerators (refrigeration units), trading points of fresh meat and fish, sub-products, eggs, fresh milk and honey are obliged to provide the veterinary-sanitary supervision services (laboratories) with standard well-organized space, refrigeration systems, equipment-devices, constant hot and cold water and electricity, chemical reagents, overalls and other necessities.
8. The Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, the relevant services of the Ministries of Agriculture of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara and the Ministry of Labor, Healthcare and Social Protection of Georgia shall carry out joint and mutually agreed activities with a view to protecting the population against contamination-poisoning with animal and human common dangerous diseases. (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 34<sup>1</sup>. Provision of Veterinary-Sanitary Security on Food Premises** (26.10.2004 N 503)

Food premises shall not be entitled to purchase, use and realize the raw materials and products of cattle breeding without being examined, stamped and relevant veterinary certificate (notice). Violation of requirements referred to in this Article shall give rise to responsibility in accordance with Georgia legislation.

**Section VII. Financing of Veterinary Activities** (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 35. Removed.** (28.12.2005 N 2568)

**Article 36. Financing of Activities against Epizootics** (28.12.2005 N 2568)

Planned prophylactic and quarantine activities against animal and human common dangerous zoonotic, zoonoanthropotic contagious diseases shall be financed from the State Budget and the budgets of Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara (taking account of epizootic situation and the list of diseases determined by the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia).

**Article 37. Financing of Other Veterinary Activities** (26.10.2004 N 503)

Epizootic prophylactic-quarantine and other veterinary activities except for the activities referred to in Article 36 of this law shall be performed at the expense of an owner of animals.

## **Section VIII. Responsibility for the Violation of Veterinary Legislation**

**Article 38. Responsibility for the Violation of Veterinary Legislation**

1. Violators of this Law and veterinary legislation shall be responsible according to the current legislation of Georgia. Herewith, they shall not be exempted from payment of damages caused by them.
2. Officials, citizens, persons without citizenship shall be subject to administrative responsibility measures for the following types of violations:
  - a) resistance against the implementation of essential prophylactic activities (examinations, animal immunization) or non-observance of the time limits of implementation of activities;
  - b) violation of quarantine rules;
  - c) untimely or incomplete implementation of liquidation activities against the nests of animal dangerous contagious diseases; (26.10.2004 N 503)
  - d) non-observance of current veterinary-sanitary rules and norms in the field of provision of products of cattle breeding and other food products deemed reliable from the veterinary point of view; (26.10.2004 N 503)
  - e) production-use of unreliable animal feeds which has given or shall have given rise to the outbreak and spread of mass contagious or non-contagious diseases; (26.10.2004 N 503)
  - f) non-observance of necessary veterinary-sanitary rules and norms with a view to eliminating the import of agents of animal dangerous diseases on the territory of Georgia from foreign countries; (26.10.2004 N 503)
  - g) non-observance of veterinary rules during the transportation (import, export, transit) of animals, products of cattle breeding, animal feeds, international or internal consignments subject to state veterinary control by all kind of means of transport; (26.10.2004 N 503)
  - h) transportation-selling of products without veterinary inspection, establishment of veterinary-sanitary reliability and the stamp of veterinary control implementation services; (26.10.2004 N 503)
  - i) non-observance of zoo-hygienic and veterinary-sanitary requirements related to the projecting, construction, exploitation, reconstruction of premises of cattle breeding, maintenance of animals, storage, realization and use of products of cattle breeding;
  - j) negligence of veterinary-sanitary requirements at check points of state borders of Georgia;
  - k) non-observance of veterinary-sanitary requirements during the processing-use of leather-raw materials, furskins and other products of cattle breeding; (26.10.2004 N 503)

- l) release of products not in consistency with veterinary-sanitary and ecology requirements;
- m) violations concerned shall give rise to imposing penalties on officials, citizens and persons without citizenship in accordance with the rules provided for by Georgian legislation;
- n) violations shall be revised by the state veterinary control authorities.

**Article 39. Revision of Administrative Violations and Imposition of Administrative Fines by State Veterinary Control Implementation State Veterinary Authorities**

*(26.10.2004 N 503)*

State veterinary supervision authority – in the name of Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia – shall perform the revision of administrative infringement and imposition of administrative fines for the violation of requirements of Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary in accordance with Georgian legislation.

**Section IX. Removed** *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

**Section X. International Agreements in the Field of Veterinary**

**Article 41. International Agreements in the Field of Veterinary** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

Where the rules referred to in international agreements on veterinary, cattle breeding, import, export and transit of animals, products of cattle breeding, animal feeds and other consignments contradict the rules of this law and Georgian legislation in the field of veterinary, the norms provided for by international agreements shall prevail.

**Section XI. Transitory and Final Provisions** *(26.10.2004 N 503)*

**Article 42. Transitory Provisions**

1. The Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and the Ministry of Labor, Healthcare and Social Protection shall, within 3 months from the adoption of this law, ensure the issue of joint order which shall determine the list of animal feeds and products of cattle breeding the production, storage, transportation, import, export, transit and realization whereof shall be subject to supervision by the relevant state veterinary and state sanitary supervision services of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Labor, Healthcare and Social Protection of Georgia either jointly or separately (within their capacity).
2. The Ministry of Agriculture shall, within 6 months from the adoption of this law, issue the following orders:
  - a) concerning the approval of the regulation of Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
  - b) concerning the approval of the regulation of state veterinary services within the structure of Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
  - c) concerning the approval of veterinary-sanitary norms and rules of designing, construction and exploitation of premises subject to state veterinary control;
  - d) concerning the approval of typological rules of veterinary services (veterinary drugstores, trade points, clinics, cosmetic cabinets and other points) of natural persons and legal persons of private law;
  - e) concerning the approval of typological rules of veterinary-sanitary supervision services (laboratories) on agrarian markets, premises of the production, storage and processing of raw materials and products of cattle

- breeding, industrial refrigerators (refrigeration units), food and trade points;
- f) concerning the approval of the rules of withdrawal and destruction of raw materials and products of cattle breeding, infected with agents of epizootic, zoonotic, zoo-anthropotic diseases and deemed unfit for human consumption, veterinary biological and all kind of chemical-pharmaceutical preparations;
  - g) concerning the approval of the rules of implementation of prophylactic-quarantine activities against dangerous contagious diseases of groups “a” and “b” determined by the international veterinary-sanitary code;
  - h) concerning the approval of the typological rules of veterinary laboratories (diagnostic department) of natural persons and legal persons of private law;
  - i) concerning the approval of veterinary-sanitary rules of driving-transportation of animals (including to summer and winter pastures);
  - j) concerning the approval of veterinary-sanitary rules of premises of production (industrial), processing, storage and realization of raw materials and products of cattle breeding, animal feeds;
  - k) concerning the approval of rules of import, export, re-export, transit of animals (including poultry, bee, fish, all kinds of water-land mammals, amphibians, embryos, animal ovaries, incubation eggs, fertilized spawn and the like), raw materials and products of cattle breeding;
  - l) concerning the approval of rules of veterinary inspection of slaughter animals and veterinary-sanitary examination of meat and meat products;
  - m) concerning the approval of rules of animal quarantine;
  - n) concerning the approval of the rules of production, storage, transportation, export, re-export, import, registration and issue of chemical-pharmaceutical preparations (means);
  - o) concerning the approval of the regulation of permanent council of veterinary issues of Veterinary Department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia;
  - p) concerning the approval of the rules of stamping of animal meat;
  - q) concerning the approval of the forms of veterinary certificates and the rules of issue thereof during the transportation of animals, raw materials and products of cattle breeding on the territory of Georgia;
  - r) concerning the approval of the forms of veterinary certificates and the rules of issue thereof during the exportation of animals, raw materials and products of cattle breeding;
3. The Government of Georgia shall present the drafts of amendments to the Code on Administrative Violations of Georgia and Penal Code of Georgia by April 1, 2007. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*
4. The Government of Georgia within 3 months from the adoption of this law shall ensure the completion of liquidation of veterinary department of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia. *(28.12.2005 N 2568)*

**Article 42<sup>1</sup>. Veterinary Control in Transitory Period** *(24.06.2005 N 1782)*

1. Veterinary control envisaged by this Law shall be implemented till December 31, 2009 on: *(29.06.2007, No. 5121)*
- a. agrarian markets;
  - b. during the importation of products into Georgia, where it is ascertained that epidemics or epizootics are present in the country of origin of the products;

- c. on trade points trading in products of animal origin prepared in a non-manufactory (non-organized) way or in animals only with a view to controlling the products of animal origin not having undergone primary processing;
  - d. on products of an entrepreneur at his own request.
2. The government of Georgia, on the basis of information from relevant international organizations, shall ensure the systematic publication of list of unreliable countries in view of spread of dangerous infectious diseases, epidemics, epizootics in accordance with the changes made to the list concerned.

**Article 43. Final Provisions**

1. Article 10 of this law shall be adopted upon the enactment of Law of Georgia “concerning the rules of state certification of veterinary surgeons”.
2. Article 32<sup>1</sup> of this law shall be adopted upon enactment of the relevant normative act of the Minister of Agriculture of Georgia.

Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia

Chief of the State

Eduard Shevardnadze

Speaker of the Parliament of Georgia  
Vakhtang Gogvadze

Tbilisi  
June 15, 1995  
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